

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

In a method and circuit arrangement for the operation of electric gas discharge lamps, for example, UV low-pressure tubes, in artificial sunning and irradiation devices, the characteristic data for the individual gas discharge lamp with respect to the decrease in the light output or radiation output depending on the total operating duration of the gas discharge member are stored in an electronic storage. The respective individual operating duration of the gas discharge lamp is measured and added to the preceding individual operating durations in order to obtain the total operating duration of the individual gas discharge lamp. The electric output to be supplied to the gas discharge lamp at a given time is automatically adjusted depending on the stored characteristic data with respect to the decrease in light output and radiation output and the respective total operating duration of the gas discharge lamp for obtaining a predetermined light output or radiation output, e.g., a light output or radiation output remaining at least approximately constant.